

TYCO 17674 (AT 20958-2034)
PATENT

Claim Amendments

1-14. (cancelled).

15. (currently amended) A connector device ~~capable of being used with an electrical cabling, said device~~ comprising:

a first connector ~~having~~ including a housing and having opposing sides and a conductive connecting device mounted in the housing; and

a second connector ~~having~~ including a housing and having opposing sides and a conductive connecting device mounted in the housing;

at least one of said opposing sides of said first connector being removably connected to one of said opposing sides of said second connector, whereby said first connector is separable from said second connector ~~as electrical cabling is spliced thereto such that said first connector~~ forms an individual connector unit.

16. (previously presented) The connector device of Claim 15, wherein said first and second connectors are removably connected by a weld.

17. (previously presented) The connector device of Claim 15, wherein said first and second connectors are removably connected by an ultrasonic weld.

18. (previously presented) The connector device of Claim 15, wherein said housings are formed of a nonconductive material.

19. (previously presented) The connector device of Claim 18, wherein said housings are formed of a polycarbonate material.

20. (previously presented) The connector device of Claim 18, wherein said housings are formed of a polyester material.

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21. (previously presented) The connector device of Claim 15, wherein said housings are formed of a polypropylene material.

22. (previously presented) The connector device of Claim 15, where said first connector housing is formed of one nonconductive material and said second connector housing is formed of a second nonconductive material.

23. (currently amended) The connector device of Claim 15, wherein said conductive connecting device ~~a crimping device is positioned in each of said housings~~ is a crimping device adjacent to a channel defined therein in each of said housings.

24. (previously presented) The connector device of Claim 23, wherein said first and second connectors further include a crimping portion capable of engaging said crimping device.

25. (canceled)

26. (currently amended) A connector stick device comprising:
a plurality of connectors;
each of said connectors including a conductive connecting device mounted in a housing
having opposing sides; and
wherein at least one of said opposing sides of each said connector is removably connected to one of said opposing sides of an adjacent said connector by an ultrasonic weld, and further wherein each said connector is separable from an its adjacent said connector by breaking said ultrasonic weld to form an individual connector unit.

27-29. (cancelled)

30. (previously presented) A connector stick device in accordance with claim 26 wherein said housings comprise first and second portions movable relative to one another.

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31. (currently amended) A connector stick device in accordance with claim ~~34~~ 26 wherein ~~each of said portions~~ said conductive connecting device comprises a crimping device.

32. (previously presented) A connector stick device in accordance with claim 26 wherein said housings each comprise a channel for receiving cabling, and a crimping device proximate said channel.

33. (previously presented) A connector stick device in accordance with claim 26 wherein said opposing sides are nonconductive.

34. (currently amended) A connector assembly for splicing cable with an automatic crimping tool, said connector assembly comprising:

a plurality of nonconductive housings joined to one another to form a connector stick, each of said housings ~~comprising holding a conductive connecting device and having~~ at least one opening for passage of electrical cabling to the conductive connecting device, wherein said plurality of joined nonconductive housings are separable from one another as the cable is spliced thereto to form a plurality of individual connector units.

35. (currently amended) A connector assembly in accordance with claim 34 wherein said ~~connector stick comprises a plurality of ultrasonically welded nonconductive housings are~~ joined by respective ultrasonic welds.

36. (previously presented) A connector stick assembly in accordance with claim 34 wherein said housings comprise first and second portions movable relative to one another.

37. (currently amended) A connector stick assembly in accordance with claim 36 wherein ~~one of said portions~~ each said conductive connecting device comprises a crimping device.

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38. (previously presented) A connector stick assembly in accordance with claim 34 wherein said housings each comprise a channel for receiving cabling, and a crimping device proximate said channel.

39. (currently amended) A method for splicing cable to a plurality of connectors, said method comprising:

providing a plurality of individual connectors, each said connector including a housing, at least one cable opening, and at least one conductive crimping device proximate the opening;

joining the connectors to one another to form a connector stick for splicing operations;

inserting cable into the openings of each of the joined connectors; and

securing the cable to each of the connectors using the conductive crimping device, [[:]]

wherein force generated in securing the cable to the respective connectors separates the respective connectors from the connector stick, thereby forming a plurality of individual connector units each having cable spliced thereto.

40. (previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 39 wherein said joining the connectors comprises ultrasonically welding the connectors to one another.

41. (currently amended) A method for splicing cable to a plurality of connectors, said method comprising:

providing a plurality of individual connectors, each said connector including a first housing portion and a second housing portion movable relative to one another, a cable opening in one of the first and second housing portions, and a conductive crimping device in the other of the first and second housing portions;

bonding the connectors to one another to form a connector stick for splicing operations;

inserting cable into an opening of one of the joined connectors; and

breaking the bond between the one connector and ~~one the connector stick~~ an adjacent connector while securing the cable to the one connector using the conductive crimping device.

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42. (currently amended) A stick of electrical connectors comprising:
a plurality of electrical connectors disposed side-by-side, each of said connectors ~~having~~
including a conductive connecting device mounted in a non-conductive housing, said connectors
being joined together by respective ultrasonic welds between adjacent said housings, wherein
said connectors are individually separable from the stick by breaking said ultrasonic welds to
form individual connector units.